Handout I: Handling Emergencies—What Would You Do?

Story #1

A Head Start teacher takes pain pills for a back injury. When he is taking his medicine in the classroom, the telephone rings. He leaves the pill on the counter for a moment while he answers the telephone. Just at that moment, a two-year-old child grabs the pill and swallows it.

Story #2

A Head Start class is going on a field trip by car. One car, with two adults and four children, is broadsided by a truck. After the crash, everyone is conscious. The children are screaming and crying, and three of the children have blood on their faces. The driver cannot walk.

Story #3

A four-year-old Head Start child's father has a history of abusing the child and mother. The mother has obtained a restraining order against the father and notified the Head Start program that the father is not allowed to pick up the child.

One afternoon, the father arrives at the Head Start program shouting, "I'm here to get my kid. Don't anybody stop me." He appears intoxicated and is waving a gun around. When he grabs his child, one of the teachers tries to stop him and he shoots her. He runs out the door with the child.